

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Version # _____

APP # 700127

1. Project Description

A. Statement of Procurement Activity

This project requests funding for a private property land acquisition to provide additional recreational opportunities, a buffer zone, and a reduction of trespass into private lands and user conflicts with potential new private land owners. The project would add an additional 102.4 acres to the current 28,494 acres currently managed in the Fort Sage Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA). The Acquisition project is in conformance with the Eagle Lake Recreation Area Management Plan (RMP). The Lassen Motorcycle Club (LMC) supports the proposed acquisition project.

The project will entail the purchase of approximately 102.40 private acres of land within Herlong, CA, Assessor Parcel Number (APN) 139-230-13 and 139-290-16. The property has two separate APN's at 51.2 acres, but is considered one legal parcel. The topography is flat desert with a moderate roll. There is no land development, including electricity or water supply. The property is accessed through Cal Neva County road. The Acquisition land is adjacent to BLM property as depicted in the Acquisition project maps. The seller is extremely motivated and is actively looking for potential buyers.

The BLM Eagle Lake Field Office currently manages the Widowmaker trailhead within Fort Sage OHV SRMA, which is adjacent to the private property. The Widowmaker trailhead is primarily used as a staging area for OHV Special Recreation Events, and casual OHV use. Off-highway vehicle use at the staging area has occurred since the 1980's. The trailhead is accessible to multiple types of vehicles including 2wd drive and trailers, and provides access to non motorized activities.

B. Relation of Proposed Project to OHV Recreation

The proposed project will provide recreational users with additional opportunities, sustain OHV recreation and enhance the Fort Sage OHV SRMA through the following:

Provide access to non motorized areas through motorized use

Future continuation of existing trail to create a loop, which currently ends on private

Buffer Zone around existing Widowmaker trailhead staging area which currently receives high use

Buffer Zone around current trail which ends in private

Protection of private lands and trespass into private lands

Reduction of potential future development near the Fort Sage OHV SRMA

Reduction of future user conflicts, such as land development near the Fort Sage OHV SRMA

Conservation of purchased land in accordance with BLM's multiple use mission

Sustain current use at the Widowmaker trailhead

Boost economy spending through land purchase

C. Identification of Needs Addressed

The land adjacent to the proposed acquisition project receives high use during OHV Special Recreation Events and casual use. In addition, the BLM managed land adjacent to the private property parcel is the main access for Special Recreation Events held by the Lassen Motorcycle Club (LMC) and harbors a staging area which includes a warm-up loop, bulletin board and loading ramp. The permitted OHV Special Recreation Events can harbor anywhere from 300-400 spectators per day, and 100-300 riders per race during the 3-day event. The Recreation Area Management Plan (RMP) specifically manages the Widowmaker trailhead for Special Recreation Events and OHV use. There is a need for additional BLM managed land near the Widowmaker trailhead. This acquisition project would provide a buffer zone for riders who come down the existing trail which currently ends in private. This project can ultimately lower Law Enforcement trespass issues during these events and during casual use, reduce future use conflicts and reduce the potential development adjacent to the Fort Sage OHV SRMA. The proposed acquisition project will sustain OHV use, provide additional motorized use and

access to non motorized activities, and provide the conservation and proper management of species, wildlife habitat and culturally significant areas.

D. Location of the Land to be Acquired

The private parcel is located in California (Township 26, Range 17, Section 25) within Herlong, CA, adjacent to the Fort Sage Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA), which is approximately 45 miles from Susanville, California and 45 miles from Reno, Nevada. The private land parcel is backed up to BLM managed lands within the Fort Sage OHV SRMA as depicted in the maps.

E. Total Acreage to be Acquired

The total private acres to be acquired is 102.40.

F. Easements Affecting the Property

There are currently no easements affecting the property.

G. Number of Parcels

The Acquisition project is for the purchase of one legal parcel with two separate Assessor Parcel Numbers at 51.2 acres each.

H. Location(s) of Existing OHV Opportunities

The existing Fort Sage OHV SRMA (28,494 acres), is currently managed by the BLM Eagle Lake Field Office for OHV use, as well as non motorized uses. The proposed acquisition project will enhance and sustain OHV opportunities by acquiring private lands which connect to land within the Fort Sage OHV SRMA.

I. Estimated Cost of Land to be Acquired

\$362.00 per acre @ 102.4 acres = \$37,069 Total cost

J. Status of Due Diligence

The acquisition project will fund the purchase 102.40 acres of privately owned land with two separate APN's as described in the project. The Bureau of Land management (BLM) Eagle Lake Field Office staff is currently working with local realtor listing office staff. The owner has been contacted and is willing and energetic to sell. If funded, the property will be purchased and utilized as described in the project description.

2. Acquisition Plan

A. Acquisition Timeline

Attachments:

[Acquisition Timeline](#)

B. Ability to Accomplish Acquisition

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Eagle Lake Field Office and private property seller are extremely motivated to complete this acquisition project. The BLM Eagle Lake Field Office recently hired a new Outdoor Recreation Planner and Realty Specialist, both staff members including the Eagle Lake Management staff feel the proposed project is vital to sustain and enhance OHV recreation for future generations. The Lassen Motorcycle Club (LMC) has initiated this and is very eager to see this privately owned parcel become part of the Fort Sage OHV SRMA.

Development near the Fort Sage Widowmaker trailhead would result in major use conflict. Purchase of the privately owned lands near Fort Sage would reduce user conflicts and provide a buffer zone around the trailhead. The BLM Eagle Lake Field Office staff plans to purchase 3 other privately owned parcels near the Widowmaker trailhead in the future. The Lassen Motorcycle Club supports this decision.

C. Due Diligence Undertaken

The preliminary title report will be obtained before the private parcel is purchased.

The zoning information and Schedule B has been obtained and allows for useable and intended purpose of the acquisition project.

The Eagle Lake Field Office staff has worked extensively with the real-estate listing office to obtain this information prior to the initiation of the proposed acquisition project.

The land owner currently has the property listed with a local real estate office and is actively looking for a buyer.

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1. Project-Specific Maps

Attachments:

[Eagle Lake Field Office Area Map](#)

[Ca Map](#)

[Fort Sage Acquisition Map](#)

2. Assessors Parcel Maps

Attachments:

[Parcel Map](#)

[Parcel Map](#)

[Parcel Map](#)

[Parcel Map](#)

[Parcel Map](#)

3. Optional Project-Specific Application Documents

Attachments:

[Parcel Photos/Information](#)

[Widowmaker Staging Area_adjacent to project area](#)

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009
Agency: BLM - Eagle Lake Field Office
Application: Acquisition

6/2/2009

| | | | |
|------------------------------|---|---|-------------|
| FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: | | Version # _____ | APP # _____ |
| APPLICANT NAME : | BLM - Eagle Lake Field Office | | |
| PROJECT TITLE : | Acquisition | PROJECT NUMBER (Division use only) : | |
| PROJECT TYPE : | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Acquisition <input type="checkbox"/> Development <input type="checkbox"/> Education & Safety <input type="checkbox"/> Ground Operations <input type="checkbox"/> Law Enforcement <input type="checkbox"/> Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Restoration | | |
| PROJECT DESCRIPTION : | <p>This project requests funding for a private property land acquisition to provide additional recreational opportunities, a buffer zone, and a reduction of trespass into private lands and user conflicts with potential new private land owners. The project would add an additional 102.4 acres to the current 28,494 acres currently managed in the Fort Sage Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA). The Acquisition project is in conformance with the Eagle Lake Recreation Area Management Plan (RMP). The Lassen Motorcycle Club (LMC) supports the proposed acquisition project.</p> <p>The project will entail the purchase of approximately 102.40 private acres of land within Herlong, CA, Assessor Parcel Number (APN) 139-230-13 and 139-290-16. The property has two separate APN's at 51.2 acres, but is considered one legal parcel. The topography is flat desert with a moderate roll. There is no land development, including electricity or water supply. The property is accessed through Cal Neva County road. The Acquisition land is adjacent to BLM property as depicted in the Acquisition project maps. The seller is extremely motivated and is actively looking for potential buyers.</p> <p>The BLM Eagle Lake Field Office currently manages the Widowmaker trailhead within Fort Sage OHV SRMA, which is adjacent to the private property. The Widowmaker trailhead is primarily used as a staging area for OHV Special Recreation Events, and casual OHV use. Off-highway vehicle use at the staging area has occurred since the 1980's. The trailhead is accessible to multiple types of vehicles including 2wd drive and trailers, and provides access to non motorized activities.</p> | | |

| | Line Item | Qty | Rate | UOM | Grant Request | Match | Total |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------|----------|-----|---------------|-----------|-----------|
| DIRECT EXPENSES | | | | | | | |
| Program Expenses | | | | | | | |
| 1 | Staff | | | | | | |
| | Realty Specialist | 200.000 | 40.000 | HRS | 0.00 | 8,000.00 | 8,000.00 |
| | Other-Outdoor Recreation Planner | 40.000 | 37.000 | HRS | 0.00 | 1,480.00 | 1,480.00 |
| | Other-State Office Realty Specialist | 20.000 | 40.000 | HRS | 0.00 | 800.00 | 800.00 |
| | Other-Resource Supervisor | 10.000 | 42.000 | HRS | 0.00 | 420.00 | 420.00 |
| | Total for Staff | | | | 0.00 | 10,700.00 | 10,700.00 |
| 2 | Contracts | | | | | | |
| | Other-Official Appraisal | 1.000 | 5500.000 | EA | 5,500.00 | 0.00 | 5,500.00 |

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009
Agency: BLM - Eagle Lake Field Office
Application: Acquisition

6/2/2009

| | Line Item | Qty | Rate | UOM | Grant Request | Match | Total |
|-------------------------------|--|---------|----------|------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 3 | Materials / Supplies | | | | | | |
| 4 | Equipment Use Expenses | | | | | | |
| 5 | Equipment Purchases | | | | | | |
| 6 | Others | | | | | | |
| | Other-Parcel Purchase Notes : Land Acquisition purchase of 102.40 Acres are 362.00 per acre. Located in Herlong, CA adjacent to the Fort Sage OHV SRMA. | 102.400 | 362.000 | MISC | 37,069.00 | 0.00 | 37,069.00 |
| | Other-Title Fees | 1.000 | 600.000 | MISC | 0.00 | 600.00 | 600.00 |
| | Total for Others | | | | 37,069.00 | 600.00 | 37,669.00 |
| 7 | Administrative Costs | | | | | | |
| | Administrative Costs-Administrative Cost | 1.000 | 3985.000 | MISC | 0.00 | 3,985.00 | 3,985.00 |
| Total Program Expenses | | | | | 42,569.00 | 15,285.00 | 57,854.00 |
| TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES | | | | | 42,569.00 | 15,285.00 | 57,854.00 |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURES | | | | | 42,569.00 | 15,285.00 | 57,854.00 |

Project Cost Summary for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009
 Agency: BLM - Eagle Lake Field Office
 Application: Acquisition

6/2/2009

| | Line Item | Grant Request | Match | Total | Narrative |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------|
| DIRECT EXPENSES | | | | | |
| Program Expenses | | | | | |
| 1 | Staff | 0.00 | 10,700.00 | 10,700.00 | |
| 2 | Contracts | 5,500.00 | 0.00 | 5,500.00 | |
| 3 | Materials / Supplies | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | |
| 4 | Equipment Use Expenses | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | |
| 5 | Equipment Purchases | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | |
| 6 | Others | 37,069.00 | 600.00 | 37,669.00 | |
| 7 | Administrative Costs | 0.00 | 3,985.00 | 3,985.00 | |
| Total Program Expenses | | 42,569.00 | 15,285.00 | 57,854.00 | |
| TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES | | 42,569.00 | 15,285.00 | 57,854.00 | |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURES | | 42,569.00 | 15,285.00 | 57,854.00 | |

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ITEM 1 and ITEM 2

ITEM 1

- a. ITEM 1 - Has a CEQA Notice of Determination (NOD) been filed for the Project? ☐ Yes ☒ No
(Please select Yes or No)

ITEM 2

- b. ITEM 2 - Are the proposed activities a "Project" under CEQA Guidelines Section 15378? ☒ Yes ☐ No
(Please select Yes or No)
- c. The Application is requesting funds solely for personnel and support to enforce OHV laws and ensure public safety. These activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No
- d. Other. Explain why proposed activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. DO NOT complete ITEMS 3 – 9

ITEM 3 - Impact of this Project on Wetlands

No wetlands or navigable waters exist within the project area. No negative impact to sensitive habitats and species would occur (Including threatened and/or endangered species). The proposed project does not involve development plans. Future projects would be designed to ensure no additional opportunity for sediment transport in to streams, springs and shallow pond locations. Additionally, sensitive habitats and species would benefit from the proposed project by creating additional habitat and less habitat fragmentation.

ITEM 4 - Cumulative Impacts of this Project

The Eagle Lake Field Office (ELFO) Resource Management Plan (RMP) and approved 2007 Record of Decision (ROD) addresses acquisition projects in the Lands & Realty Section 3.8, the Travel Management Section 2.16 and the Proposed Management Actions- Fort Sage SRMA Section 2.9.6.3 of the RMP. Page 2-92 of the RMP states, where the public is accustomed to crossing private land to gain access to BLM administered land, the Bureau will attempt to: ...acquire the land". The proposed project is in conformance with the approved ROD.

As addressed in EA#CA-350-16, The incremental impact of the Proposed Action when combined with past, present and reasonable foreseeable actions is expected to be minor adverse and moderate beneficial impacts. Public ownership will improve the flexibility of managing the land. The BLM will have the opportunity to manage the private parcel in conjunction with the surrounding public lands. The current objective for these lands is to promote the natural, cultural, biological, and scenic settings while proving for OHV use and special permitted events. The parcel will not be available for commercial development, and any BLM permitted activities would undergo a site-specific environmental analysis prior to implementation. Federal management of the proposed private parcel would provide for any cultural resources or sites to be inventoried prior to development plans, and managed according to their needs. The proposed action is expected to result in moderate beneficial impacts to recreation and visitor services, as additional areas are open for the public use and enjoyment.

This project will cumulatively improve cultural resources, vegetative and wildlife habitat, and visual resources and allow for additional recreational opportunities and availability. Several positive future effects from multiple and small incremental project accomplishments will occur.

ITEM 5 - Soil Impacts

This possibility of such an impact does not exist since there are no existing trails on the private parcel with highly erosive soils or steep slopes. Future projects may occur to lessen soil impacts, such as closing illegal routes from vehicles where erodible soils exist.

ITEM 6 - Damage to Scenic Resources

The project will have no effect on scenic values. The project area will be managed to conform to prescribed visual resource management (VRM) classes as discussed in the Eagle Lake Field Office Resource Management Plan an approved 2008 Record of Decision (ROD) for the Fort Sage SRMA. In addition, the proposed project is not within viewshed of a highway officially designated as a state scenic highway

ITEM 7 - Hazardous Materials

Is the proposed Project Area located on a site included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the California Government Code (hazardous materials)? (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

If YES, describe the location of the hazard relative to the Project site, the level of hazard and the measures to be taken to minimize or avoid the hazards.

ITEM 8 - Potential for Adverse Impacts to Historical or Cultural Resources

Would the proposed Project have potential for any substantial adverse impacts to historical or cultural resources? (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

If YES, describe the potential impacts and for any substantially adverse changes in the significance of historical or cultural resources and measures to be taken to minimize or avoid the impacts.

ITEM 9 - Indirect Significant Impacts

The possibility that users may cause impacts though the creation of illegal OHV routes within the project area is present. There is currently no illegal OHV routes within the project area. To help prevent future illegal OHV impacts, once the parcel is acquired, the BLM Law Enforcement Ranger will patrol the surrounding areas as well as the project area looking for new routes created though OHV use. The BLM rangers and staff will educate the public through the use of citations, handouts and brochures. Education will be utilized to help keep users on the "Limited to Designated" OHV routes and trails. Additionally, the project will help eliminate current trespass issues.

CEQA/NEPA Attachment

Attachments:

[EA#CA-350-16](#)
[Decision Record \(DR\)](#)
[Finding of No Significant Impact \(FONSI\)](#)
[DR- Signed Page](#)
[FONSI- Signed Page](#)

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1. Project Cost Estimate - Q 1. (Auto populates from Cost Estimate)

1. As calculated on the Project Cost Estimate, the percentage of the cost of the Project covered by the Applicant is 3

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☐ 76% or more (10 points)
☐ 51% - 75% (5 points)
☒ 26% - 50% (3 points)
☐ 25% (Match minimum) (No points)

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Q 2a., 2b., & 2c.

2. Natural and Cultural Resources

- a. Natural and Cultural Resources: Species 3

Enter the number of special-status species that are known to occur in the Project Area

Number of special-status species 5

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☐ No special-status species occur in Project Area (5 points)
☒ One to five special-status species occur in Project area (3 points)
☐ Six to ten special-status species in Project area (2 points)
☐ More than ten special-status species occur in Project area (No points)

b. Habitat

- b. Natural and Cultural Resources: Habitat 5

Potential Effects on special-status species habitat (Check the one most appropriate)

Special-status species habitat is known to occur in the Project Area (if YES, enter number of species) (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

Habitat for special-status species known to occur in Project Area (enter number of species)

Reference Document

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☒ No special-status species habitat is known to occur in the Project area (5 points)
☐ Habitat for one to five special-status species is known to occur in Project area (3 points)
☐ Habitat for six to ten special-status species is known to occur in Project area (2 points)
☐ Habitat for more than ten special-status species is known to occur in Project area (No points)

c. Cultural Resources

- c. Cultural Resources 4

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☐ Project would provide additional protection to cultural sites (5 points)
☒ Project area has no known cultural sites (4 points)
☐ Identified cultural sites in the Project area will not be affected (3 points)

- ☐ Project impacts to cultural sites will be mitigated (No points)
- ☐ Project has unavoidable detrimental impacts to cultural resources (No points, Project application will be returned to Applicant without further consideration)

Reference Document

California BLM Cultural Resources GIS database

Eagle Lake Field Office GIS database

BLM Eagle Lake Field Office Resource Management Plan (RMP)

3. Benefit to OHV Recreation - Q 3.

3. Project will benefit the Applicant's OHV recreation program by 12

(Check all that apply) Scoring: Maximum of 14 points (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Restore or maintain connectivity of trail system by acquiring linkage/in-holdings (10 points)
- ☒ Providing additional OHV Opportunity (2 points)
- ☐ Expanding the types of vehicles that can use the OHV Opportunity (2 points)
- ☐ Protecting private property and land owners adjacent to the proposed acquisition from high levels of sound, trespass, and property damage (2 points)
- ☐ Resolving conflict related to OHV Recreation (2 points)

Explain each statement that was checked

Future continuation of existing trail which currently ends on private to provide linkage/loop to trailhead and OHV trails

Buffer Zone around existing Widowmaker Trailhead staging area which currently receives high use

Protection of private lands, trespass, and property damage into private lands

Reduction of potential future development near the Fort Sage OHV SRMA

Reduction of future user conflicts, such as land development near the Fort Sage OHV SRMA

Sustain current use at the Widowmaker trailhead

4. Primary Funding Source - Q 4.

4. Primary funding source for future development and operation cost will be 5

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☒ Applicant's operational budget (5 points)
- ☐ Volunteer support and/or donations (3 points)
- ☐ Other Grant funding (2 points)
- ☐ OHV Trust Funds (No points)

If 'Operational budget' is checked, list reference document(s)

The Lassen Motorcycle club has initiated and is dedicated to the proposed acquisition project, therefore future development and operations cost will be partly through volunteer labor support. However, the majority of funding will be through the Bureau of Land Management, Eagle Lake Field Office operational budget and can be tracked through our Financial Business Management System (FBMS).

5. Motorized Access - Q 5.

5. The Project improves facilities that provide motorized access to the following nonmotorized recreation opportunities 6

(Check all that apply) Scoring: 2 points each, up to a maximum of 6 points (Please select applicable values)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Camping | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Birding |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hiking | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Equestrian trails |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rock Climbing |

☒ Other (Specify) [Hunting]

6. Public Input - Q 6.

6. The Project was developed with public input employing the following 2

(Check all that apply) Scoring: 1 point each, up to a maximum of 2 points (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Meeting(s) with the general public to discuss Project (1 point)
☒ Conference call(s) with interested parties (1 point)
☒ Meeting(s) with stakeholders (1 point)

Explain each statement that was checked

The Bureau of Land Management, Eagle Lake Field Office staff meets with the Lassen Motorcycle Club (LMC) on a monthly basis and conducts frequent conference calls with individual LMC members. Grant applications were discussed during the last meeting held in January 2009. The need for the purchase of private lands near the Widowmaker trailhead is a priority for the Lassen Motorcycle Club and was discussed in the January meeting. The BLM Outdoor Recreation Planner has held individual meetings with community members and Lassen Motorcycle Club members, as well as with the local realtor property listing agency holder to discuss this acquisition project. The BLM staff, Lassen Motorcycle Club, and local Realty Agent have contacted and met with the private land owners. In addition, past acquisition grants have been submitted to the State Parks OHMVR and have gained public support and approval.